

2. PROVISIO FROM GOVERNOR'S SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET

The Governor's 2006 Supplemental Budget contained the following language:

The committee shall conduct an evaluation of the department of transportation surface transportation program enhancement grant program. The evaluation will include (a) information about the categories of projects submitted for consideration; (b) a review of the allocation of funds awarded across the categories of STP enhancement eligible activities; (c) a review of the criteria used to score projects; and (d) a finding by the committee whether certain categories of projects are disproportionately funded or unfunded.

The committee referenced above is the Joint Transportation Committee. WSDOT staff will be required to report program information to the Joint Transportation Committee for their use in evaluating the next round of selections to the Governor's Office.

3. STATUS OF 2006 ENHANCEMENT SELECTIONS

The Enhancement Advisory Committee's recommendations for funding were forwarded to the Secretary of Transportation in February 2006 for his approval. The Secretary approved all 148 recommended projects, totaling almost \$42 million in federal transportation enhancement funding.

Proponents of selected projects were notified of their success by letter. Letters were mailed March 9, 2006. WSDOT also issued a press release on March 13, 2006, announcing the selections. Copies of the press release and a sample award letter are attached.

To date (April 12, 2006), 10 projects have been submitted for authorization, requesting approximately \$3.2 million in enhancement funds. Below are the projects that have been submitted to date.

Agency	Project Title	Enh. \$ Awarded	Enh. \$ Requested
Brewster	Main Avenue Streetscape	\$13,500	\$13,500
Cascade Bicycle Club	Cascade Commuter Education Campaign	\$175,000	\$175,000
Colville	Truck Rte N. Roundabout Landscape (PE)	\$46,000	\$46,000
Fairfield	Main and Ticknor Ped. Safety (Design)	\$16,617	\$16,617
Pateros	Gallaher House	\$304,000	\$10,000
Suquamish Tribe	Arch. Sensitivity Model for Kitsap Co.	\$284,962	\$284,962
Vancouver	Confluence Land Bridge	\$1,595,000	\$1,595,000
Washougal	Downtown Washougal Improvement	\$543,000	\$543,000
WSDOT	I-90 High Point to Preston Trail	\$390,000	\$390,000
WSDOT	Percival Creek Highway Runoff Mitigation	\$101,600	\$101,600

4. FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION GUIDANCE

Gary Hughes will discuss Enhancement Program guidance from FHWA. This guidance will focus mainly on the eligibility of transportation enhancement funding for historic preservation and rehabilitation. A copy of the guidance is attached.

6. FUTURE CALL

The items below (with a checkmark) were discussed at the Committee's January 2006 meeting. These are items that were proposed as improvements to the 2005 call for projects process.

- ✓ Earlier announcement for the call for projects.
- ✓ Increase time between the call for projects and the WSDOT deadline.
- ✓ WSDOT eligibility review of all projects prior to RTPO prioritization.
- ✓ Development of a standard application form for all submittals.

The items below were mentioned at the January 2006 meeting, but discussion was tabled until a future meeting.

- Definition of "statewide" project – The 2005 call for projects defined a "statewide" project as one that existed in a minimum of three RTPOs.
 - Was it appropriate to limit "statewide" projects to only those that existed in at least three RTPOs? Should this be changed to a minimum of two RTPOs, or should the definition of "statewide" be dependent on some other qualities beyond the number of represented RTPOs?
- Split of funding between regional priorities and "statewide" projects – The 2005 call for projects allocated 80% of the enhancement funding to the RTPOs, and the remaining 20% for "statewide" and additional regional priority projects.
 - Should this split of funds be changed?
 - Will the committee continue to recommend the RTPO's prioritized lists without change?
 - Will the committee utilize the "statewide" portion of the program to fund projects in an effort to achieve equity amongst the eligible activities?
- Categorization of projects based on the twelve eligible activities – To date, each potential project has been defined under a single activity that comprises the majority of work on the project. It has been recognized that most projects provide benefits in multiple activities, and that the above methodology does not accurately describe benefits to all the activities.
 - Should the methodology used to define a project's activity be changed, and, if so, how?
- Statewide committee's guidance to the RTPOs – All guidance for the 2005 call for projects was provided by WSDOT staff. At the January 2006 enhancement meeting, there was discussion that the RTPOs would have benefited from the statewide committee making a presentation to the RTPOs regarding the committee's expectations.
 - Should the committee schedule a presentation to the RTPOs?
 - If so, how will this presentation be arranged and scheduled?

8. NEXT STEPS

- Below is a draft schedule for the next call for projects.

December 2006	Announce call for projects
January 2007	Statewide committee presentation to RTPOs
Feb. – March	RTPO outreach and workshops
June – August	Eligibility review by WSDOT
October	Prioritized applications due to WSDOT
January 2008	Committee selection recommendation meeting
February	Forward recommendations to Secretary
March	Announce selections

- Determine date for next committee meeting.
- Determine format for next committee meeting.

Attached is a summary of the January 2006 committee meeting.